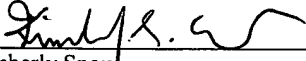


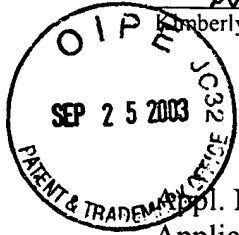
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Ref. No.: 12221-040

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on September 22, 2003 in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Kimberly Snow



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/880,658
Applicant : Eldridge et al.
Filed : June 13, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2829
Examiner : E. Pert

Confirmation No. 7329

Docket No. : 276440-6

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of May 21, 2003, the period for response to which has been extended to September 22, 2003 (the first business day following September 21, 2003) by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the list of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

09/30/2003 HASFAH1 00000116 09880658

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